

REMARKS

This Request for Reconsideration is submitted in response to an outstanding Office Action dated February 24, 2006, the shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 24, 2006. Accordingly, no extension of time is believed due. In the event that the Commissioner determines that an extension of time is required or a fee due, the undersigned hereby petitions for any required extension of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge any required fee to the Milbank Deposit account 13-3250. A duplicate of this sheet is enclosed.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 18-23 are now pending in the application. Claims 18, 19, 22 and 23 are independent claims.

Applicants acknowledge the Examiner's citation of statutory authority as a basis for claim rejections.

II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 18-23 under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Cox.

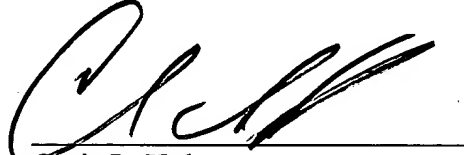
Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. Cox was filed in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on March 15, 2001, which date is later than the claimed June 2, 2000 priority date of the pending application. Applicant are preparing a certified English translation of the priority document on an expedited basis and will submit that translation as soon as it is complete. Accordingly, applicant submits that the Examiner's bases for rejection over Cox are thus overcome.

III. Request for Reconsideration

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims of this application are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration of the rejection and allowance is requested. If a

conference would assist in placing this application in better condition for allowance, the undersigned would appreciate a telephone call at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,
Milbank, Tweed, Hadley & McCloy LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris L. Holm', written over a horizontal line.

Chris L. Holm
Reg. No.: 39,227

May 24, 2006

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